

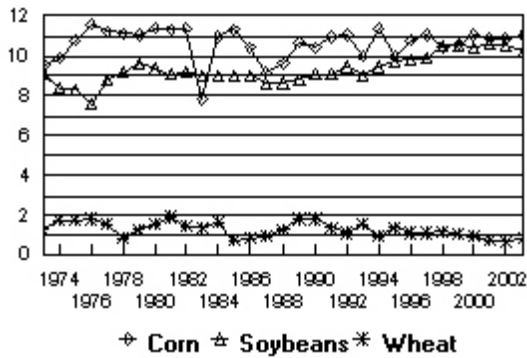
CROPS

Planting of 11.2 million acres of corn in 2003 made rapid progress during the second half of April reaching the halfway point by the start of May. Delays occurred during the first half of May due to rain and cool temperatures but conditions improved by the middle of the month and planting was nearly complete by the beginning of June. Corn harvest began during the middle of September but progressed slowly until the start of October. Harvest progressed normally during the month of October and was nearly complete by the beginning of November. The 2003 value of the corn crop was 4.53 billion dollars, 29 percent more than the previous year.

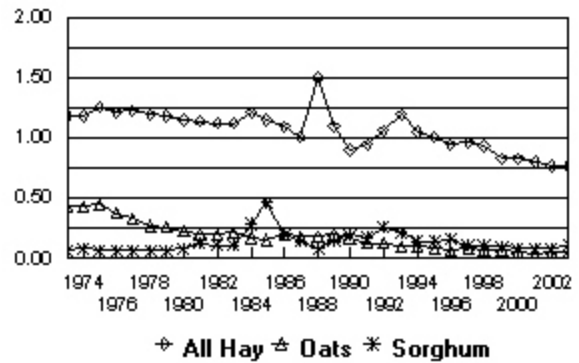
Soybean planting got off to a slow start in the middle of May because of wet soils but made rapid progress during the second half of the month and was nearly three fourths complete by the end of the month. Planting of 10.3 million acres was nearly complete by the middle of June. Harvest of soybeans was slow during the second half of September but made excellent progress during October and was nearly complete by the start of November. The value of the 2003 soybean crop was 2.75 billion dollars, seven percent above the 2002 crop.

Winter wheat acreage for 2003 totaled 850 thousand seeded, 29 percent more than the previous year. The value of the wheat crop was 76 percent above the previous year reaching 168 million dollars. Acreage seeded to oats in 2003 was 60 thousand, down from 65 thousand in 2002. The oat crop was valued at 7.3 million dollars, up 20 percent from 2002. Acreage planted to sorghum in 2003 was 110 thousand, 38 percent more than the previous year. Sorghum value was 28 percent above 2002 reaching 21.2 million dollars. Harvested acreage of hay in 2003 was 775 thousand, unchanged from 2002. The hay crop was valued at 224 million dollars.

PRINCIPAL CROPS
Illinois Harvested Acres (Millions)



OTHER CROPS
Illinois Harvested Acres (Millions)



CROPS: Record highs through 2003, Illinois

Crops	Unit	Date series began	Acres harvested		Yield per acre		Production	
			Year	Acres	Year	Yield	Year	Production
			<u>Thousands</u>		<u>Thousands</u>			
Corn for grain	Bushels	1866	1976	11,590	2003	164	2003	1,812,200
Soybeans	Bushels	1919	2001	10,620	1994	45.5	2001	477,900
Sorghum for grain	Bushels	1931	1985	470	2001	105	1985	36,190
Wheat	Bushels	1866	1919	4,103	2003	65	1989	105,020
Oats	Bushels	1866	1925	4,855	2003	89	1917	207,000
All hay	Tons	1866	1940	3,523	1990	3.72	1956	5,065